REMARKS

The foregoing Preliminary Amendment is requested in order to delete the multiple dependent claims and avoid paying the multiple dependent claims fee.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE.**"

Early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

4. The method according to claim 1 [one of claims 1 to 3], wherein said sample is a body fluid, preferably cerebrospinal fluid.

5. The method according to claim 1 [one of claims 1 to 4], wherein said subject is a human.

6. The method according to claim 1 [one of claims 1 to 5], wherein said translation product of (i) a cystatin C gene or (ii) a polymorphic variant of a cystatin C gene is determined in its monomer form.

7. The method according to claim 1 [one of claims 1 to 6], wherein said translation product and/or said transcription product is detected using an immunoassay, an enzyme activity assay and/or a binding assay.

8. The method according to claim 1 [one of claims 1 to 7], wherein said reference value is that of a level, or an activity, or both said level and said activity, of a transcription product and/or a translation product of (i) a cystatin C gene or (ii) a polymorphic variant of a cystatin C gene in a sample from a subject not suffering from said Alzheimer's disease.

9. The method according to claim 1 [one of claims 1 to 8], further comprising comparing a level, or an activity, or

both said level and said activity, of a transcription product and/or a translation product of (i) a cystatin C gene or (ii) a polymorphic variant of a cystatin C gene, in said sample with a level, an activity, or both said level and said activity, of a transcription product and/or a translation product of (i) a cystatin C gene or (ii) a polymorphic variant of a cystatin C gene in a series of samples taken from said subject over a period of time.

14. The method of claim 12 [and/or 13], wherein the presence or absence of at least one B allele is determined.

16. The method of claim 12 [at least one of claims 12 to 15], further comprising:

determining a level, or an activity, or both said level and said activity, of a transcription product and/or a translation product of (i) a cystatin C gene or (ii) a polymorphic variant of a cystatin C gene in a sample from said subject;

and

comparing said level, or said activity, or both said level and said activity, of said transcription product and/or said translation product to a reference value representing a known disease or health status.

19. Use according to claim 17 [one of claims 17 and/or 18], further comprising reagents to assess a function or dysfunction of said subject's kidneys.

20. Use according to claim 17 [one of claims 17 to 19], wherein said translation product of (i) a cystatin C gene or (ii) a

polymorphic variant of a cystatin C gene is determined in its monomer form.

21. Use according to claim 17 [at least one of claims 17 to 20] for use in monitoring a progression of Alzheimer's disease in a subject.

22. Use according to claim 17 [at least one of claims 17 to 20] for use in monitoring success or failure of a therapeutic treatment of said subject.

25. The kit according to claim 23 [and/or 24], wherein a presence of a polymorphism in leucin 68 codon of a human cystatin C gene leading to a loss of *Alu* I restriction site does not indicate diagnosis or prognosis of Alzheimer's disease in said subject.

26. The kit according to claim 23 [one of claims 23 to 25], further comprising reagents to assess a function or dysfunction of said subject's kidneys.

27. The kit according to claim 23 [one of claims 23 to 26], wherein said translation product of (i) a cystatin C gene or (ii) a polymorphic variant of a cystatin C gene is determined in its monomer form.

30. The method according to claim 28 [one of claims 28 and/or 29], wherein per se known methods of gene therapy and/or antisense nucleic acid technology are applied to administer said agent or agents.

31. The method according to claim 28 [at least one of claims 28 to

30] comprising grafting donor cells into the central nervous system, preferably the brain, of said subject, said subject or donor cells preferably treated so as to minimize or reduce graft rejection, wherein said donor cells are genetically modified by insertion of at least one transgene encoding said agent or agents.